

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2003. New claim 21 has been added. Thus, claims 1-21 are now pending.

Initially, it is noted that applicant has not yet received an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 corresponding to the IDS filed June 21, 2001. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm that this IDS has been considered by providing the undersigned with an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 corresponding to the same.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Morishita in view of Ginter. This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 as amended requires "a system managing section that, in response to a releasing key operation that renders the additional operation implementable, makes said second program accessible in said first program, and wherein said first program is accessible and operable both before and after the releasing key operation." The cited art fails to disclose or suggest this advantageous feature required by claim 1.

In particular, both Morishita and Ginter fail to disclose or suggest that the first program is accessible and operable both before and after the releasing key operation as required by claim 1. The cited art fails to disclose or suggest using a release key operation to allow accessibility to a subroutine program (e.g., second program) that is provided in a main program (e.g., first program) that is accessible regardless of the release key operation. Both Morishita and Ginter fail to disclose or suggest this aspect of

amended claim 1. Thus, even if the references were combined as alleged in the Office Action (which applicant believes would be incorrect in any event), the invention of amended claim 1 still would not be met.

Claim 5 requires "the first program being accessible prior to the releasing key operation" . . . and further requires that "said releasing key operation determines whether the release key information matches release key information stored in memory and if so then making the second program accessible." These aspects of claim 5 are not disclosed or suggested by the cited art either alone or in the alleged combination. Thus, even if the art was combined as alleged in the Office Action (which applicant believes would be incorrect in any event), the invention of claim 5 still would not be met.

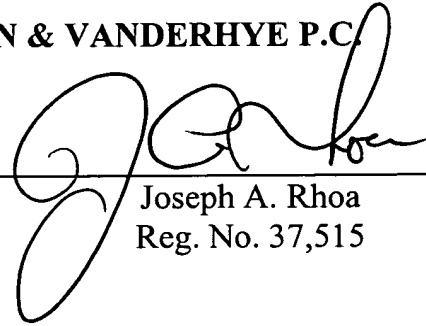
Claims 9 and 15, like claim 1, require that the first program is accessible and operable both before and after the releasing key operation. As explained above, the cited art fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claims 9 and 15.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JARhoa', written over a horizontal line.

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